

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA NIACT IMMEDIATE
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AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

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SUBJ: PUBLICATION BY JORNAL DO BRASIL OF USG DOCUMENTS

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1. SUMMARY: JORNAL DO BRASIL BEGAN SERIES OF ARTICLES BASED ON OFFICIAL USG 1964 DOCUMENTS DECEMBER 18. FIRST OF APPARENT THREE PART SERIES PUBLISHED DOD DOCUMENTS RELATING TO OPERATION QUOTE BROTHER SAM UNQUOTE WHICH PROVIDED FOR US NAVAL TASK FORCE TO PROCEED TO AREA NEAR SANTOS IN ORDER TO PROVIDE SUPPORT TO THOSE OPPOSED TO THEN PRESIDENT GOULART SHOULD SUCH SUPPORT BE DEEMED ADVISABLE BY AMBASSADOR LINCOLN GORDON. IN ADDITION, THE NEWSPAPER REPORTED LENGTHY ASSESSMENT DATED MARCH 27 BY AMBASSADOR GORDON ON THE INTERNAL SITUATION PERTAINING IN BRAZIL AT THAT TIME. NEXT INSTALLMENT WILL REPORT AMEMBASSY MESSAGES OF MARCH 31-APRIL 2, 1964 AND CIA DRAFTED PROFILES ON LEADING BRASILIANS. END SUMMARY.

2. DECEMBER 18, JORNAL DO BRASIL BEGAN PUBLICATION OF FIRST IN EVIDENTLY THREE PART SERIES OF OFFICIAL USG DOCUMENTS OBTAINED FROM LYNDON B. JOHNSON LIBRARY BY ITS US CORRESPONDENT MARCOS SA CORREA. THE DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED IN FIRST ARTICLE ARE ALL OF UNCLASSIFIED

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DOD ORIGIN PLUS ONE MESSAGE WHICH APPEARS TO BE A TELEGRAM FROM THEN-AMBASSADOR LINCOLN GORDON. THE DOD DOCUMENTS ALL RELATE TO OPERATION QUOTE BROTHER SAM UNQUOTE DURING THE PERIOD FROM MARCH 31 UNTIL APRIL 2, 1964. ACCORDING TO THE NEWSPAPER, THE SUNDAY EDITION WILL CARRY TELEGRAMS FROM THE RIO EMBASSY TO THE WHITE HOUSE DURING THE SAME TIME FRAME, PRESUMABLY RELATING TO THIS

OPERATION, BESIDES PROFILES OF BRASILIAN PERSONALITIES WRITTEN BY CIA FOR PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S ADVISERS. THE NEWSPAPER NOTED THAT THE SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS WILL TERMINATE MONDAY, DECEMBER 20.

3. IN REPORTING THE PUBLICATION OF THESE DOCUMENTS, THE NEWSPAPER NOTED THAT OPERATION BROTHER SAM WAS RECORDED IN 17 DOCUMENTS FROM EIGHT BOXES OF DOCUMENTS RELATED TO BRASIL IN THE JOHNSON LIBRARY WHERE WHITE HOUSE PAPERS OF THE PERIOD 1963-69 ARE KEPT. THE NEWSPAPER ALSO REPORTED THAT THESE DOCUMENTS WERE RELEASED BY THE USG AND COPIES CAN BE OBTAINED FOR FIFTEEN CENTS.

4. THE DOD DOCUMENTS REPRODUCED IN PORTUGUESE (WITH SEVEN ALSO REPRINTED AS PHOTOCOPIES OF THE ORIGINALS) ALL RELATED TO THE FORMATION, LOGISTICAL SUPPORT, DEPLOYMENT AND INTERNAL COORDINATION OF A NAVAL TASK FORCE DESIGNED TO SHOW AN AMERICAN PRESENCE IN THE SOUTH ATLANTIC, OFF SANTOS, SAO PAULO STATE, DURING THE FINAL DAYS OF THE JOAO GOULART REGIME. ONLY ONE DOCUMENT APPEARS TO CONTAIN POLITICAL INFORMATION: NAMELY THAT 110 TONS OF ARMS AND MUNITIONS WERE RETAINED AT MCGUIRE AFB UNTIL AMBASSADOR GORDON DETERMINED IF THE BRASILIAN ARMED FORCES OR THE NATIONAL POLICE FORCES NEEDED USG HELP AND THAT THE TASK FORCE WOULD CONTINUE IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SOUTH ATLANTIC UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE AMBASSADOR DETERMINED WHETHER A VISIT TO BRASILIAN PORTS OF OTHER DEMONSTRATIONS OF AMERICAN NAVAL POWER WERE DEFINITELY NOT NEEDED.

5. IN COMMENTING ON THE DOCUMENTS, MARCOS DE SA CORREA NOTED THAT RUMORS OF THIS NAVAL OPERATION HAD SURFACED IN THE PAST. HE SAID THAT THOMAS SKIDMORE, WELL KNOWN US SCHOLAR ON BRAZIL, HAD REVEALED IN AN ARTICLE SOME TIME AGO THAT THERE HAD BEEN UNCLASSIFIED

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CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE BRASILIAN CONSPIRATORS AGAINST GOULART AND AMERICAN DIPLOMATS ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF USG SUPPORT TO THE REVOLUTION. HE ALSO REPORTED THAT FOUR YEARS LATER, DURING AN APPEARANCE BY CARLOS LACERDA ON WILLIAM BUCKLEY'S FIRING LINE PROGRAM, IT WAS REVEALED THAT US SHIPS HAD RECEIVED ORDERS TO APPROACH THE BRAZILIAN COAST ON THE EVE OF THE REVOLUTION. ALONGSIDE THE CORREA ARTICLE, JORNAL PUBLISHED A TELEGRAM (TRANSMITTED FROM CIA TO WHITE HOUSE) REPORTING "IN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION APRIL 1, 1964, DR. LEOPOLDO SUAREZ, MINISTER OF DEFENSE OF ARGENTINA, SAID THAT IF A MILITARY STRUGGLE HAPPENS IN BRAZIL, THE ARGENTINE GOVERNMENT IS GOING TO ASK FOR THE INTERVENTION OF THE OAS. SUAREZ MADE THIS OBSERVATION AFTER A CONFERENCE WITH PRESIDENT ILLIA, WITH WHOM HE DISCUSSED THE BRAZILIAN SITUATION. PRESIDENT ILLIA, SUAREZ AND CHANCELLOR MIGUEL ANGEL ZAVALLA ORTIZ PARTICIPATED IN THE MEETING".

6. IN YET ANOTHER ARTICLE, ENTITLED "AUSTIN, 15 CENTS FOR A SECRET", JORNAL DESCRIBED IN DETAIL HOW IT OBTAINED DOCUMENTS

FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY. AFTER REVIEWING PROVISIONS OF THE FOI AND THE RESEARCH OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS ON BRASIL, THE ARTICLE STATED THAT AN AMERICAN SCHOLAR PHILLYS (SIC) MARKS BEGAN ONE YEAR AGO TO BE INTERESTED IN US-BRAZIL RELATIONS IN 1964 AND TO ASK VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS OF THE USG FOR MATERIALS ON THIS SUBJECT. TODAY, THE ARTICLE (PRESUMABLY BY SA DE CORREA) NOTES THAT EXTENSIVE INFORMATION ON US-BRAZIL RELATIONS IS AVAILABLE UP TO 1966, AS A RESULT OF MS. MARKS' REQUESTS. THE ARTICLE CONTINUES THAT MATERIAL FOR THE PERIOD OF THE LAST TEN YEARS IS MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN IN PART BECAUSE AUTOMATIC DECLASSIFICATION HAS NOT OCCURRED AND PERHAPS BECAUSE OF A LACK OF INTEREST IN RELEASING SUCH DOCUMENTS. BUT IT IS NOTED THAT THOSE DOCUMENTS WHICH ARE AVAILABLE CAN BE SEEN AND COPIED WITHOUT ANY RESTRICTION.

6. THE MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR GORDON OF MARCH 27, 1964 IS A LENGTHY ASSESSMENT OF THE INTERNAL BRASILIAN POLITICAL SCENE AT THAT TIME. THE DOCUMENT, MARKED TOP SECRET, IS DESIGNATED UNCLASSIFIED

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